



See movie re-
views on page 9

Bring back
Larry Bird



THE STROBE

THE NEWSPAPER OF FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE

Issue 9

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

12 Pages

The Bobs to perform at FSC

press release

The Bobs, a four-member cappella group known for their extraordinary live show featuring witty original material and outrageous covers of classic songs, will appear at FSC on Thursday, April 24 at 8 p.m. in Weston Auditorium.

The Bobs-Richard Bob Greene, Matthew Bob Stull, Lori Bob, and Joe Bob Finetti-present a show that is part theatre, comedy, and performance art. They are a *band without instruments*, using voices and body persuasion to fill the theatre with sound, accompanying themselves on songs ranging from soulful to satirical, amazing to moving, and from familiar to unimaginable.

The Bobs, together since 1981, have sold out venues around the world, been nominated for a Grammy, appeared on network television, produced commercials, been the musical commentators on National Public Radio, and built a legion of adoring fans.

The performance is part of the cultural series at Fitchburg State. Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$5 for students, with discounts for seniors and groups. They can be purchased at the door or by calling (508) 345-2151. There is limited seating for this special event.

For more information, call the cultural affairs coordinator at (508) 665-3709.



Psi Chi inducts new members

by Elizabeth Portway
Contributing Writer

On Thursday, April 10, the fifteenth annual Psi Chi (national honor society in psychology). Induction Ceremony was held in room G-105 in the Hammond Building. Sixteen new members were inducted into Psi Chi, FSC's chapter.

The ceremony started off with a keynote address by Dr. Jill Taylor, the co-director of the Harvard Psychiatry Brain Collection. Dr. Taylor, who has a brother with schizophrenia, discussed the differences between

the brain of a normal person and the brain of a schizophrenic person.

From working in the lab with post mortum human tissue, Dr. Taylor, along with her co-workers, discovered many different reasons for schizophrenic isolation.

Taylor, simplified her complex findings for the audience. She ended her speech with two songs which helped to lighten up the subject matter.

After Dr. Taylor's speech, the President of Psi Chi, Becky Kowalczyk, inducted new members into the society. The new

members were nominated based on their earnest study of psychology, and promise in the field.

Kowalczyk and Melissa Hulecki, Psi Chi Vice President, described the purpose of Psi Chi: to encourage, stimulate and maintain excellence in scholarship in the field of psychology.

The new members were asked to sign a pledge to Psi Chi, and to pick up their formally-sealed memberships in the society. The following students were inducted: Leslie E. Adams,

See Psi Chi on page 2

Rand Project moves along

By Michael Darowski
Staff writer

The organizers of the Rand Project (the wiring of the FSC campus) recently met to update student and faculty on the progress of the project.

The physical wiring is currently being installed around campus. McKay, Edgerly, Anthony, and Condi are finished, while Percival, Herlihy, and Aubachan are underway.

The completed Rand Project will bring voice, video, and data to every classroom, on campus office, and dorm room. Each dorm room will have cable TV, data, and voice hookup.

The total cost for

students (Cable TV, phone, and Data/Internet) will be \$125 per semester; this price mirrors a semester's cost for basic NYNEX phone services.

Cable TV will be available in all dorm rooms as long as students have a cable ready TV or VCR; no converter boxes are available. This single cable line can be spliced to allow each resident their own cable connection. A jack will also be available in the lounge areas in all residence halls.

The cable channels provided will be much like the basic cable service in the average home; popular channels such as MTV, ESPN, ESPN2, the Sci-Fi Channel, and Comedy Central will be available. Though no pay chan-

nels like HBO will be available. Several FSC channels will show first run movies 24 hours a day. This service promises 12 new first run flicks monthly from a catalog of over 5700 movies. A FSC public access channel may be used for distance learning, class assignments, and the like.

The phone system will be very simple and efficient. Each phone jack is assigned a number. All students will have a personal phone line (call waiting included), a 7-digit long distance PIN, and a one minute voice-mailbox. Personal long distance PINs can be used from any campus phone, much like a calling card. The long distance rates

see RAND on pg 2

Teeter - Totter Athon

by Jennifer Cestaro
Contributing Writer

Tri-Sigma has an annual Teeter-Totter- Athon in April?" To raise money for their philanthropy Robbie Page Memorial (RPM). The theme of the philanthropy is *Sigma Serves Children* In the month of April Tri-Sigma serves the children.

RPM was established in 1954 after Robbnie Page, the national President's son, passed away. He died of bulbar polio at Children's Hospital in Boston.

RPM started off as a small memorial fund, then became a national memorial, and is now the philanthropy of the national sorority Sigma Sigma Sigma. RPM once supported various polio research projects and then moved onto long range programming in support of play therapy for hospitalized children.

RPM's main goal is to aid programs for seriously ill children which focuses on developmental and emotional needs during hospitalization.

The second annual Teeter-Totter-Athon will be held outside of the library on April 24 and 25. Sorority sisters will begin at 8:00am on Thursday and finish at 12:00pm on Friday. Student support will help make a child's day a little brighter. Please support Tri-Sigma.

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Taking Steps 97

By Chris Robinson and T.J. Dygon
Contributing Writers

On Sunday, April 27, Phi Sigma Sigma Sorority and Sigma Pi Fraternity are Taking Steps. Taking Steps is a 2 mile walk towards ending violence against women and girls. This is the fourth annual walk for Rape Crisis.

Why should you help support this walk? Mainly because Worcester ranked sixth in calls to the National Domestic Hotline in its first six months in operation last year. The money that both organizations, Phi Sigma Sigma and Sigma Pi, raise from the walk will help support Worcester area agencies such as the Rape Crisis Center of Central Massachusetts, YWCA, Daybreak, and Girls Inc.

Anyone who wishes to walk, registration for the walk is at 10:30 a.m. at the YWCA in Salem Square, Worcester. The walk will last for almost 4 hours with refreshments, music and a free health screening after the walk, around 2:00 p.m.

For anyone wishing to donate to this great cause, tables will be set up in G-Lobby the week of April 22nd. You can also see any sister or brother for information and/or donations.

Shopping on-line for a student loan

press release

Obtaining student loans is a hassle for any student. Students can now use the internet to locate information before beginning the student loan application

Students interested in gathering information about scholarships, and who fear being scammed, should log on to the Federal Trade

Commission's web site, at www.ftc.gov

process.

"We know that students are accessing the Internet now, more than ever in their searches for information," said Lydia Marshall, executive vice president. "That's why we encourage students to spend a little time on the internet before choosing which bank or credit union to

lend them funds for college. All the loans look the same when you take them out, but when it comes time for repayment, there are different cost saving options to choose from."

Marshall recommends using Internet search engines for narrowing down possibilities. Search engines such as Yahoo, Alta Vista, HotBot, Excite, and Webcrawler all provide a number of links to Web Sites that have information about financial aid and student loans. Some useful key words to use for finding loan information include *student loan, college loan, education loan, and paying for college.*

Two comprehensive web sites often listed by the major search engines include: Finaid, The Financial Aid Information Page (www.finaid.org) and Sallie Mae (www.salliemae.com).

Students interested in gathering information about scholarships, and who fear being scammed, should log on to the Federal Trade Commission's web site, at www.ftc.gov. This web site offers college students six important tips for ensuring scholarship search service authenticity.

For more information on financial aid and acquiring student loans, log on to Sallie Mae's Internet site, www.salliemae.com or call College Answer at (800)891-4599, weekdays, 9am to 9pm ET

Psi Chi inducts

- Psi Chi continued from page 1

Catherine A. Desmarais, Kristin D. Dinitto, Kristin D. Filiatrault, Marcy T. LeBlanc, Karen M. McCaie, Theresa M. Packard, Melissa M. Richard, Shawn E. Fitzgerald, Julie A. Gasbarro, Diane M. Haller, Michael P.

Hebvert, Amy J. LaForte, Deborah A. Shank, Elizabeth R. Sweeney, Ellen A. Wright, and Yuko Yagi.

The new officers of Psi Chi are: President-Elect, Leslie Adams; Vice President-Elect, Julie Gasbarro; and Secretary/Treasurer-Elect, Jennifer McDowell.

Rand is on the move

-RAND
Continued from pg 1

will be 20% or more off of AT&T's published rates. Inter-campus calls are made using 4-digit extensions.

The campus Data/Internet

The campus Data/Internet system connections will offer a convenient link to the information highway.

system connections will offer a convenient link to the information highway. Each student will have E-mail and Internet access at T1 speeds (about 8 times faster than the fastest present connection), including graphical web

browsing of on campus resources and the World Wide Web.

Students may use any POP3 E-mail software, such as Netscape, Internet Explorer, or Eudora Pro; all of these graphical programs give much more freedom and usability than the current OpenVMS system. Space for student web pages is also planned.

Students with computers can link into the network using standard network cards (\$75.00-\$100.00), made available in the campus bookstore. Off campus students will still be able to dial into the system via modem. Technical help will be available to students; each residence hall will have a technician to assist those having trouble getting connected to the network. The Rand Project is certainly coming along. FSC has chosen a top of the line, up gradable system that will greatly assist the transfer of information for both students and faculty. Future updates on the project will be printed in the Strobe.

STROBE



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The Strobe considers for publication letters to the editor on any topic of interest to the Fitchburg State College community. All submissions run at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and are subject to editing for style and length. Documents published in the Opinion section of the Strobe, are the opinion of the writer, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Strobe, its staff, or Fitchburg State College.

All articles must be typed or legibly hand-written and include a name and phone number in case of questions. All letters in response to a Strobe article must be submitted within two days after the article is published.

Announcements should be short, including dates, places, times and a contact person.

The Strobe is the student newspaper of Fitchburg State College. The reprinting of any material herein is prohibited without the express written consent of the Editor-in-Chief. All material submitted to The Strobe becomes the property of The Strobe.

Monday thru Saturday
9:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Beer Balls and Kegs

Busch Bar Bottles (24) \$10.49 + dep

MGD Bar Bottles (24) \$10.99 + dep

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Rolling Rock (12 pack bottles)	7.39 + dep	Boones Wine 3 ltr	\$6.00	Petes Summer brew (12 pack bottles)	\$10.39 + dep
Coors Coors Light (12 pack)	\$6.99 + dep	John Fitch Vodka (1.5 ltr)	\$9.99	Sani Summer Ale (12 pack bottles)	\$10.99 + dep
Natural Ice Light (12 Pack Cans)	\$5.39 + dep	Ron Roberto Rum (1.75 ltr)	\$11.89	Molson Ice (12 pack bottles)	\$9.39 + dep

BLOOD DRIVE

Sponsored by the Clinical
Laboratory Science Club



Wednesday, April 23rd
&

Thursday, April 24th

11 am to 4 pm

G Lobby Classrooms
Hammond Building

Walkins Welcome!

Life in *The Burg*

by Karen Sjoström
Staff Writer

Students must make residency decisions for next year. It is not what courses to take or what major to pursue. Where one should live for the next school year is a monumental decision.

Both off and on-campus housing have pros and cons. The majority of students. The majority of students.

Living on-campus provides the basic essentials one need to survive away from home. All living expenses are prepaid. There are no monthly bills (other than phone), twenty-four hour housing maintenance is available, and living quarters come furnished. In addition, several meal plans are offered. On-campus living is definitely the care-free way to go, leaving the mind free to focus on more important things, like school work.

The large complaint of on-campus living is lack of freedom and independence. In order to ensure the protection of school property, Residence life

impliments many rules and regulations. Failure to follow such rules results in expensive fines.

Privacy is also an issue. Dorm life often means sharing living quarters with many people. This is often a source of conflict. Residents are also under the watchful eye of RAs. Many students find these living arrangements too restricting.

Students have total control of who and what comes into your house. You live with the people of your choice. The chances of finding a place with your own room are very high. Many apartments allow pets. A parking space is often guaranteed. Of course there are rarely 2:00am fire alarms.

Many disadvantages exist for off-campus living. Living off-campus is expensive. Monthly bills are a constant worry. There is no twenty-four hour maintenance hot-line. Toilet paper isn't free. Students must shop and budget their money efficiently. Security found on-campus is totally lost. The nearby neighborhoods sometimes lack safety. Off-campus students may have



Russell Towers

File Photo

quite a walk to class. Many students say that in addition to the physical distance, there is also a psychological distance. Finally, having both physical and psychological distance from school can be detrimental to a student's work.

There are many pros and cons to living on and off-campus. Depending on who a student is, a big decision must be made.



Everyone you encounter is a reflection of some part of you.

—E. Joy

Phunky Phish food at B&J's

Jessica Roy
Staff Writer

In a creamy ocean of delectable chocolate ice cream, runs rivers of oozy-goopy marshmallow and caramel. Inside this magical frozen dessert world swims a school of tiny, smiley fudge fish, or should I say *Phish*? Hence, the newest creation from world-famous Vermont-based ice cream makers, *Ben & Jerry's* is born.

Paying homage to the equally famous jazz/rock band *Phish*, the flavor *Phish Food* is making waves in store freezer cases world-wide, with all royalties going to benefit the Lake Champlain restoration efforts. Straying from the traditional pint design, the *Phish Food* container includes images from *Phish's* concert light show, featuring *Phish* band members Trey Anastasio, e Gordon, Jon Fishman, and Page McConnell

on the pint lid along with Ben & Jerry.

Says Ben and Jerry's co-founder Ben Cohen, "This is chocolate and marshmallow the way it was meant to be. Most marshmallow variegates disappear into nothingness. You can see the white streaks but you can't taste them, you can't feel them, you can't experience the true glorious marshmallowness

see *PHISH* on pg 5



Phish Food courtesy of www.Phish Food.com

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Submit questions to the Strobe with the following subject heading: **President question.**

Q Could you tell us more information regarding the Rand proposal? When will it be completed? Who should students contact for any further information?

A The Rand proposal to wire the campus will be completed by the start of the Fall 1997 semester. This means that every residence hall room will be wired for cable TV, telephone, and computers. Before the semester begins, you will receive a handbook which will answer your questions about computer, telephone and TV hookups. In the meantime, you can call ext. 4340 if you have questions about hardware requirements for computer hookups.

Q What are the future plans for North Street?

A We are currently purchasing properties on North Street and will demolish them this summer. The design for the new physical education/recreation center is currently being done and should be completed before the end of the Fall 97 semester.

Construction will start next winter/spring and the building should be completed by later 1998 or early 1999. The College working with state agencies; Design and construction does not occur as rapidly through the state as it does in the private industry.

We are working with city, state, and federal agencies to widen North Street down to Main Street as apt of the Inter modal Center project. The city approved converting North Street to a two way street last Fall. Should additional funds become available, we will purchase other properties on North Street for increased parking.

NEXT WEEK

Q President Riccards, who is the speaker for graduation going to be?

FSC Honors Convocation

On Thursday, April 17, 1997 at 2pm, the Honors Convocation took place in Weston Auditorium. Several students were awarded a variety of awards and scholarships. Immediately following the ceremony, a reception was held outside the auditorium.

One of the new awards presented this year was the Distinguished Scholar Award. Recipients of this award maintained an overall GPA of 3.9 or better. Also new this year, in conjunction with FSC's Year of the Citizen theme, were the Citizen Essay Awards, and the Frederick Douglass Citizenship Award. Departmental, SGA, and scholarships were also presented at the Honors Convocation.

Distinguished Scholar Award

Mark P. Alderson
Deborah A. Byron
Donald J. Cheney
Katherine M. Herriott
Rebecca J. Kowalczyk
Lisa Marie LaBelle
David C. Minchenberg
Wendy Quill
Patricia A. Wheeler
Kenneth A. Wrobel

Citizen Essay Awards

Freshman Award
Emily B. Jordan
Upperclassman Award
Carol Lee Webber

**Frederick Douglass
Citizenship Award**
Arismendy Ramos



Arismendy Ramos

File Photo



Rebecca Gill, English Departmental Award Winner

File Photo

Disability Awareness at FSC

Elizabeth Portway
Contributing Writer

Imagine having to answer the call of nature and not being able to because you can't fit into the public bathroom stall. Then imagine not being able to go to the movies, to restaurants, or even to your favorite store because the entrances are not accessible to you. It is frustrating to be disabled because these kinds of problems.

A lack of funds is one of the main reasons why the disabled find it hard to venture out in public.

Most healthy people are not aware of what disabled have to go through. Physically-able individuals tend to be ignorant of disability issues.

"Although 15% to 20% of the world's population are handicapped in some form or another, this minority is rarely ever seen," says Dr. Adrian Komel, a physical therapist. "When people ignore the disabled, they assume the disabled do not exist, or that their problems do not exist," Komel said.

A lack of funds is one of the main reasons why the disabled find it hard to venture out in public. "I've been waiting to get a hand operated car for years," says Mary Bullock, a forty-two-year-old mother who has been paralyzed from the waist down for twelve years. "I just don't have the money for it," she says. Although the government provides financial aid, it's not enough."

Many disabled people's jobs and wages are suppressed by accessibility limitations. If a disabled person cannot enter a building where he/she would possibly earn a substantial salary, he/she will have to resort to working at a building that is accessible. As a result, many people with disabilities don't have adequate funds to spend at restaurants and movies.

The disabled are rarely seen in the movies, on television, or in print. In horror films, disabled

people are often portrayed as freaks, and many times directors imply the disabled are resentful of the able-bodied.

Thanks to the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) passed in 1992, restrictions on the handicapped are slowly disappearing. The ADA requires equal access to buildings and public transportation along with freedom from bias in the work place. Strong advocacy by the ADA, and cooperation from the government and businesses have improved life-styles of the disabled. More and better coverage of the disabled in the media, greater accessibility to buildings and transportation have improved because of the ADA.

Able-bodied people still park in handicapped spaces, and look upon disabled individuals as inferior. Only when attitudes change towards people with disabilities can their situation improve. An important thing people can do to help the handicapped is to respect them for their individuality and to value them as people.



Police Log

Monday, April 7, 1997

2:27am DISTURBANCE- Report of furniture being broken and overturned at Russell Towers. Officers dispersed one subject from the building.
10:04am HARASSMENT- Reported to Public Safety under investigation.
10:15am ASSIST OTHER POLICE- Assisted Fitchburg Police Department with an investigation at Percival Hall.
12:54pm REQUEST FOR POLICE- Report of a trespasser in Russell Towers. Located subject outside of the building.
1:35pm DANGEROUS CONDITION- Tree in the middle of Ringe Road reported to Fitchburg DPW.
3:30pm VANDALISM- To a vehicle parked in the North St #3 lot.
6:02pm DISPERSAL- Of skateboarders from McKay School.
8:10pm FIRE ALARM- Trouble in the system at Herlihy Hall.

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

2:50am NOISE COMPLAINT- Loud music reported at Mara Village.
4:00am SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY- Checked out three individuals in the Miller Lot.
4:18am SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY- Checked out two individuals in Ross St. Lot.
7:20am BREAKING & ENTERING- Into a motor vehicle, parked in Lower Cedar Lot under investigation.
12:10pm HARASSMENT- Of a resident of Aubuchon Hall by telephone reported. Case under investigation.

Wednesday, April 9, 1997

10:45am REQUEST FOR POLICE- Patriot ambulance and officer responded to a medical call at Holmes Dining Commons.
10:45pm NON-CRIMINAL COMPLAINT- Referred complaint to Res. Life Staff.

Thursday, April 10, 1997

12:05am DISPERSAL- Of an unwanted guest from Russell Towers.
2:38am MOTOR VEHICLE VIOLATION- Report of vehicle operating recklessly in Lower Weston Lot checked.
2:44am ARREST- Craig L. Taylor, 707 Applebriar Lane, Marlboro, MA for Disorderly Conduct.
5:15am MOTOR VEHICLE TOWED- Incident to arrest.
8:30am LARCENY- Of FSC property from the Conlon IA Building investigated.
12:45pm DISTURBANCE- Report of a fight about to break out in Russell Towers.
1:50pm BREAKING & ENTERING- Into a vehicle parked in Lower Cedar Lot.
2:44pm DISTURBANCE- Fight in progress at Russell Towers.
4:00pm ILLEGAL POSTING- "Coyote Bob" Advertisements posted on campus trees.
7:48pm ILLEGAL POSTING- "Boomers" Advertisements posted on campus trees.
8:27pm REQUEST FOR POLICE- Health & Welfare check requested at Herlihy Hall.

Friday, April 11, 1997

12:05am REQUEST FOR POLICE- Group outside Mara Village disturbing residents.
2:20pm REQUEST FOR POLICE- Officer and Ambulance responded to Aubuchon Hall on a medical call.
3:05pm FIRE ALARM- Problems in the system at the Town Houses.
10:41pm REQUEST FOR POLICE- Report of a subject vandalizing a car parked on Pearl St.

Saturday, April 12, 1997

12:17am ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF CLASS D- Reported at the Town Houses.
1:31am PROTECTIVE CUSTODY- One Adult male for intoxication.
1:39am ASSIST OTHER PD- Assisted Fitchburg Police disperse group from 153 Snow Street.
10:45am LARCENY- Of FSC property taken from Elliot field reported.
3:11pm REQUEST FOR POLICE- Emergency message delivered to person at Elliot Field.
4:27pm NON-CRIMINAL COMPLAINT- Maintenance issue, Facilities notified.

Tall women are often shortchanged

By Kathy Geoghegan
Opinion Editor

"Wow, you're tall!" is something I hear every day. Sorry everyone, but this is not news to me. People tell me this like I haven't yet realized that the majority of the world reaches my shoulders.

I have been tall all my life. By age 10, I was already 3 inches taller than my mother. Growing up, adults would tell me how lucky I was. Lucky? For the life of me I could not see the "luck" in the fact that my peers were eye level with my breasts. OK, I was guaranteed me a spot on the b-ball team, so I guess there were some perks.

One thing that remains a mystery to me is that it seems the taller a man is, the shorter his girlfriend will be. Another thing is that short men always ask me to dance. Both scenarios are very ugly.

There are some things I like to do now that I am comfortable with my height. I like to go out with my tall friends and stand next to short guys to see their reaction. They don't know what to say. I overheard a guy (who was about 5'5") make a comment

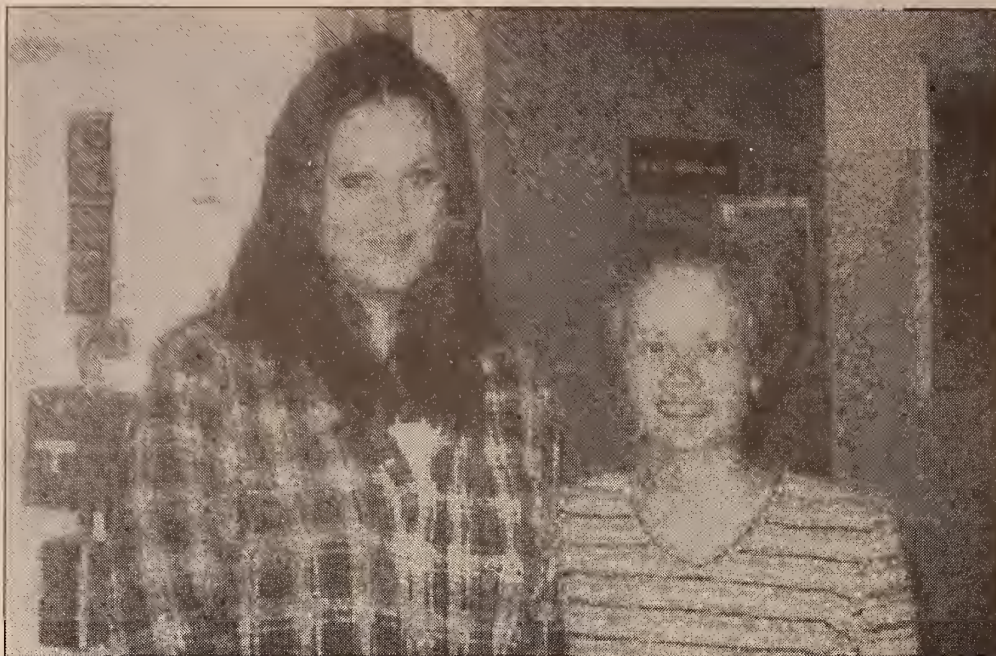
about my height and all I could think of to say to him was that he would kill to be my height for 20 minutes of his minuscule life. He knew damn well how correct I was.

I also love to wear heels. People look at me and I can tell they are thinking "Is that *really* necessary?" It's also great because no one can ever try to ignore me and then say "Oh, I didn't even see you there." I understand that both men and women find it intimidating or uncomfortable to speak with someone who towers over them. At times it is uncomfortable for me too. I even had one guy ask me to sit down because I was "making him feel short." I would never ask anyone to stand on a chair, so why should I have to slouch for anyone?

I know other women think I am jealous of them. I have no desire to be any shorter than I am. I look at women who are 5 feet tall and it is so weird. I was their size when I was about 8.

I am proud to be tall. I will admit it is aggravating when the only men in the world that couldn't possibly find me scary are called Lakers, but it makes life more interesting to be different than the average person.

The Long and the Short of it...



Kathy Geoghegan and Heather Macedo

Photo courtesy of Kathy Geoghegan

Not short, she's just not very tall

By Heather Macedo
Contributing Writer

I'm short, so I like to wear shoes with heels. Maybe I do that to take away from my shortness. Perhaps I do it to sense what it would be like to be tall. Who knows, but it works.

As soon as the heels come off someone will be right there to remind me of just how short

I am. Okay already, I know.

It never seemed to have posed a problem in my life. Except when drunk guys at clubs want to dance with me and his penis is grinding in my stomach!

Another time that anyone makes a big deal about my height, (or lack of) is during the holidays when all of my relatives get together. My 13-year-old cousin is 6 inches taller than me. Big deal, I don't like to consider my-

self short. I am just not tall.

Short people adjust to tall things. If we can't, then that's what we have tall friends for. We help each other out, we work together.

The next time you bump into a short person, ask how they are doing that day, not how short they are feeling. You may like the response you get!

An explanation for those offended

Kenneth Gibbs, Jr.
Advertising Manager

It would seem that the article titled "Is FSC cleaning up or cleaning out", printed in the March 5th issue of the Strobe, has been the cause of some unrest on the campus of Fitchburg State.

Unfortunately, I am absolutely guilty of submitting a sloppy article because of a rush to make the deadline. In turn, the points I tried to make came across too vague, and were open to negative interpretation, which was the basis for the response page.

The article branched off in too many different directions, and nothing concrete was said. This was led by a quote put in print without the permission of Officer Shane Rodriguez, which made it seem as though he was speaking on behalf of the President. Although I know what I heard, or at least thought I did, I didn't ask Officer Rodriguez for permission to use his name or the quote, and I sincerely apologize. Regardless, a statement was made and misinterpreted, hopefully in the future all statements will be made with complete clarity so as to eliminate opinions formed by misinterpretation.

The speculation that the col-

leges campaign against drugs was initiated because of its application for University status, comes from the coincidental parallel of the times of the campaign and the application. If this is beyond some, let me attempt to solve it in two words "GOOD PRESS." Common

raising the standards will help us who are already here immensely by creating a more competitive atmosphere...

knowledge tells me "that such offenses are violations of the law," but if a stronger stand against marijuana was suddenly being taken in the wake of a school's application for a title that would undoubtedly raise the school to a higher echelon of education, and benefit all involved and in attendance, wouldn't it seem somewhat coincidental? With all the controversy surrounding the substance at the time of the article's re-

lease (the medical marijuana thing in CA. for instance), it would only seem strategically correct and patriotic to stand against it while under a critical gaze.

This is all irrelevant, though, because the quote ("The President will take a stronger stand against drug and alcohol use on this campus, Marijuana use in particular") was not in fact a quote, and any thoughts of an cleaner image effecting the decision is erroneous, right?

As hard as I looked, I couldn't find any references to marijuana in the ACCESS program's requirements either, Mr. Fernald - it's a good thing I didn't misquote them too, isn't it? The goals of the program, after all, are to bring minority students to FSC "who possess the motivation and academic potential to receive a college education, but have been denied access to a quality education because of economic or educational disadvantages." Maybe this will refute any followers whom I mistakenly led to believe that the program's members were "too high on their 'stimulant of choice' to meet the new standards imposed by the President."

When Schindler's List was recently aired on television, I, too, saw a horrid example of ac-

tual ethnic cleansing. My comparison was, at best, poor. Also, while the numerous minority-based organizations on campus are aimed at helping minorities, they have nothing to do with those trying to get into the college (who are the actual ones affected by a

...hopefully in the future all statements will be made with complete clarity so as to eliminate opinions formed by misinterpretation.

raise of standards), thus irrelevant in keeping anyone out. Furthermore, the duties of the President were never meant to be questioned or criticized.

The issue of these new standards is not one that threatens ACCESS students (who are both white and black) who are already here. With one-third of the program's students on the Dean's List, most are quite sure of their

academic stability. It is those who have not yet entered the world of higher education that the new standards threaten. Inner-city, urban area schools which educate the majority of minority students are not equal to suburban or private institutions. This unbalance gives them an instant disadvantage in meeting the new requirements. If all students are competing for the same thing, namely to get into college, shouldn't they at least be launched from the same educational platform?

If the problem of academic inequality in most minority-dominated school systems did not exist, neither would the ACCESS program. I don't think the students think they are special Michael Darowski, but if the curriculum standards aren't raised in the high schools, then some compensation must be given on another level if they hope to succeed. Indeed, I am in full agreement that "There is no reason to have separate laws (or admission standards for that matter) for minorities), but the existence of the ACCESS program shows that something similar is already in place, and it is unfortunate that it is needed.

see ACCESS on pg 7

Something *romantic* this way

Dear FSC,

You know, it's a pretty sad thing that there are so many Single Available Men on campus. However, this sorrowful circumstance, which is slowly but surely growing into an unofficial support group for the growing number of single men on campus - should not have to be in existence (at least not at FSC). So then, you may ask, why has sweet Destiny whispered in my ear... "If you complain about it, they will come"? And who do I want to come? Am I not just blowing the magical horn of old - hoping that my heroine will come to save this drowning prince? Or perhaps I co-founded S.A.M., in an outcry of indignance, simply for the frolicsome likes of a stag-party ...or for better yet, a stag-hunt? {Kudos!, kudos!}

But seriously people, S.A.M., which has been fashionably renamed to S.A.M. Jr. (there already exists a S.A.M. on campus : 'Society for the Advancement of Management')

wants to be a resource for the single available men on campus - primarily for the advancement

So, to all of the single available men at FSC who are either too shy even to send a girl an e-mail... please guys, for the love of God(dess), come out of your caves!

of, none other than, managing our love of you beautiful FSC women, both students and faculty alike. For the spirit of S.A.M. Jr. is by far the bona fide romantic of FSC, and this is just

one of his voices.

So, to all of the single available men at FSC who are either too shy even to send a girl an e-mail, or are too frustrated about what seems to be, especially at FSC, 'The Myth of the Single Available Woman' - please guys, for the love of God(dess), come out of your caves! S.A.M. Jr. will offer both guys and gals at FSC, 'A Forum of Love' (i.e. - current problems of dating at FSC, various brainstorming-'love'-techniques, sharing past 'love' experiences, and even story-telling {folktales on 'love'}).)

If you're interested in S.A.M. Jr., let the Strobe know (leaving your campus e-mail is optional). If you have any suggestions for S.A.M. Jr., ditto. Soon, S.A.M. Jr. will hopefully have his own FSC e-mail account, so please be patient until that time ...hopefully until the next issue of the Strobe where it would be listed

Sincerely yours,
Sam Jr.

FSC: Forgetful State College

By Serkum Loquacious
Contributing Writer

It seems to me that for all of its good points, FSC has a well hidden shadow side. I don't want to knock the school--I think it's great--but I also strongly feel that before a person or institution can aspire to reach the sky, it has to give it's self a base to stand on. All too often I get the feeling that FSC is jumping for the stars, while it's foundation has not quite set properly. I'm not some ultra-conservative who fears change, nor am I disgruntled to see the occasional change that might inconvenience me. I just think that in the mad rush for the top that the school is engaged in, it has started to overlook details, (or to establish the somewhat corny premise of this article, forget things).

Apparently the academic planning board, or curriculum committee, or someone in charge somewhere has forgotten that the college is here to prepare students for the future. I have already invested years of my life in pursuit of a career in television, and at the end of this time I have reached one fairly unfortunate conclusion: It is a dying medium. Television will always be around, but not in the way it is taught here. Here it is taught in the traditional way

(well as traditionally as any 50 or so year old industry can be taught) I guess they haven't noticed the trend to shoot all sorts of this stuff on film, and edit it on computers. Pretty much only live productions are actually shot on video cameras now. That makes me think that perhaps

I don't know about most people but if I owned anything that cost \$20,000, I sure as hell would remember to make sure the roof over it didn't leak.

"they" should have maybe kept the multi-media major, and cut back on less useful classes like studio production. They are teaching us to use equipment and ideas that no one uses anymore. For crying out loud, there's a Chryon in the studio. Literally nobody uses on of those anymore. I know of cable access sta-

tions who upgraded from those years ago. Cable access stations are the last people who can afford to upgrade. Yet, we take studio production, and eliminate one of the most rapidly growing communications fields in the world today. (Smart)

While I'm haranguing the Communications Department, I would like an explanation as to how they forgot that the roof in the Conlon Arts building leaks. Last year an AVID got water in it, A300 got flooded, and there's still plastic strung up in the control room. Now let me see, AVID that's \$20,000, there's about 10 other computers in A300, and while the stuff in the control room is junk, there's still no reason to drown it.

I guess they also forgot that they have been trusted to not waste the money I spend on tuition. I don't know about most people but if I owned anything that cost \$20,000, I sure as hell would remember to make sure the roof over it didn't leak. Part of the problem in Conlon is maintenance's fault, however, Conlon is not maintenance's only problem...

I'll be back next week, and remember: Be Ever watchful and Ever Vigilant for while Corruption Breeds in the Heart of the Greedy, it Feeds on the Silence of the Complacent

- Access continued

Continue from pg 6

Thoughts that the article showed "ignorance, lack of vision, and a lack of faith in the minority population at FSC campus" appeared ignorant to me, but that's just my opinion. My opinion also includes a lack of faith in writers' skills who address letters to the fictional "Kennith O. Gibbs Jr.", and editors who allow it. Possibly my opinion is just out of range for some people's limited vision, or maybe they're just too busy worrying about my faith in my peers.

Also, I never said they (the program's students) were motivated to be drug users because of the media. Rather that the image of marijuana is desensitized to all people in America through media-conveyed images of social acceptance and euphoria experienced through its use. Similar to violence in the movies (warning: this does not mean that people are mass murderers and killers because of movies).

Miss Marshall, I admitted to my poor organization of the article being the cause for it seeming ambiguous and distorted. My honest opinion is that raising the standards will help us who are already here immensely by creating a more competitive atmosphere, therefore putting more value on a degree obtained from what will hopefully be the future University of Fitchburg. I even agree that, "anyone, no matter what race they may be, is capable of studying hard and achieving good grades," but when you're studying on two different levels, logic suggests that the lower will be at a disadvantage, and in this case the minority high school student is on that lower level. By all means, don't believe that this is the case if you haven't attended an inner-city high school - that would be ignorance on your part.

Again, I am at fault for making it seem as though only minorities smoke marijuana. After the article's printing I received many comments from my white peers demanding I acknowledge the "Phish" heads and others who smoke. But I never planned to be the spokesperson for all minorities and marijuana activists, I was just voicing my opinions. There are some things that you may find hard to relate to if you haven't experienced them firsthand; I see that and maybe you should, too.

I applaud all those who responded to the article. It's nice to see that people actually do read the Strobe, and take the time and energy to respond and add to the content of our school paper. However, from an editorial standpoint, maybe the article should never have been printed, because no one "verified the quotes and paraphrases of particular individuals before they ended up in print," an understandable request to say the least. Hopefully in the future we can get all our words straight and say what we mean without getting anyone in trouble.

Question of the week:

If you knew you were to die tomorrow, who would you call and what would you say? Why are you waiting?


-Book of Questions

Quote of the week:


Relationships are like busses, you miss one and another one will come along every 15 minutes.

-anonymous


ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT...



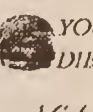
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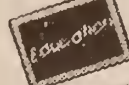
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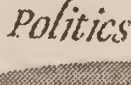
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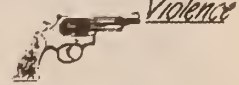
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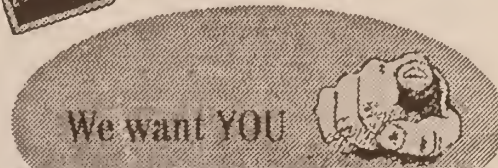
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Articles must be submitted by Thursday of each week for publication in the upcoming issue. The author's name, grade, major, and a means of contact (ie. phone #, email) should be included with articles.

CONTACT KATHY GREGGHEAN 243-7070



Esmeralda Santiago

Esmeralda Santiago visits FSC

Nicole Moreau
Co-Features Editor

On Thursday, April 17, as part of the college's New England Writer's Series, Esmeralda Santiago, author of *When I was Puerto Rican* and *America's Dream*, dazzled a full audience in Kent Recital Hall with a captivating discussion of her life and works.

Robert Cormier, reknowned author of *The Chocolate War*, introduced Santiago. In praise of her amazing accomplishments and books, Cormier compared the clearness of her works to "the ping of one's finger on crystal." He also elaborated on her distinguishing status as a Harvard graduate, author of two

books, mother, and film producer.

Santiago then shared her poignant story of leaving Puerto Rico with her parents and eleven siblings to come to the U.S. when she was 13 years old. Without any knowledge of English and little formal instruction in Spanish, she "did not know enough of any language to write anything." Trapped between two languages and two cultures, Santiago struggled to find her own identity.

She also discussed the painful experience of returning to Puerto Rico 13 years later only to be told that she was no longer Puerto Rican. She had become

too Americanized; her Spanish was rusty, she dressed differently, and her experiences were dissimilar to theirs. Disheartened, Santiago returned to the U.S. three months later, calculating, what she calls her "degrees of Puerto Ricanness."

In an open, comfortable discussion and Q&A session, Santiago discussed the writing of her memoirs recalling her poor Puerto Rican family moving to Brooklyn, a moving story "that did not previously exist in literature." Santiago ultimately left her receptive audience with a statement that provoked radiant applause when she said, "No one has the right to challenge anyone else's chosen identity."



CD Reviews: The Notorious B.I.G. *Life After Death*

Frederick Yackowski
Staff Writer

**** "I want this to be the biggest record ever... I want to live up to my name and prove to everybody that there really is life after death," said Notorious B.I.G. of his latest effort *Life After Death*.

Unfortunately these words ring hollow because of the March 9 shooting that ended in the death of B.I.G. The shooting, some say, was retaliation for the shooting of former west coast rapper Tupac Shakur.

Tupac and B.I.G. were embroiled in a very public rivalry that was fueled by the media. The competition between B.I.G. and Tupac became so intense that it seeped into their music. B.I.G.'s last effort *Life After Death* is his attempt to deliver a double album that tops Tupac's full-length *All Eyez on Me*.

B.I.G.'s two-disc, 24 track album clocks in over two hours. But beware, because the two hours will be over before you know it. Once B.I.G.'s narrative sucks you in, it's hard to interrupt his tales of urban America. B.I.G. raps in a husky, rough-around-the-edges voice that quickly becomes addictive.

Unfortunately B.I.G. slips into homophobia and sexism, which diminishes the overall greatness of the album. For example, *F—ing You Tonight* is an R&B, New Jack send-off that is ridiculously offensive. B.I.G. is far better off sticking with narratives that have a point.

When B.I.G. does just that, the results can be remarkably poignant. Songs like *You're Nobody (Til Someone Kills You)* and *Ten Crack Commandments* show how B.I.G. can expound

on topics to make listeners think.

But the lyrics are only half of the matter. The musical backdrops, which feature production by Sean 'Puffy' Combs, RZA (of Wu Tang Clan), Easy Mo Bee (Miles Davis), Kay Gee, Deric Angelettie, Buck Wild, Clark Kent, DJ Premier (of Gangstarr) and Stevie J and Daron Jones (of

Ironically, Tupac and B.I.G. did their best work when each was trying to put out a better product than the other. And now, because of acts of stupidity, both are dead.

* * *

* *



Kenneth Gibbs, Jr.
Advertising Manager

The world of entertainment was exposed to what could easily pass for the second coming in the genre of "Gangsta Rap" on March 25.

The Notorious B.I.G. (a.k.a. Biggie) released his sophomore album entitled *Life After Death*, the sequel to his trend-setting debut LP *Ready to Die*. The long-awaited double CD comes almost five years after *Party*

and *Bullshit* (his first solo recorded song) breathed new life into the scene of eastcoast rap.

This time around fans are blessed with twenty-four tracks, produced by hip-hop pioneers like the RZA of Wu-Tang and DJ Premier of Gang Starr, as well as the usual Puff Daddy disco loops. And in lieu of the sup-

Fall and *Long Kiss Goodnight* are listened to carefully, a clear message in reference to the deceased can be heard.

The album is long, and not as straightforward as the first. This time Biggie shows his lyrical versatility, and on songs like *Kick in the Door*, he demands his talent be respected with lines that show his poetic skill:

I'm done with them/ son I'm surprised you run with them/ I think they got cum in them/ cuz they-nothin but dicks/ tryin to blow up like nitro and dynamite sticks/ man I smoke hydro/ rock diamonds that sick/ got paid off my flow/ rhyme with my own click/ take trips to Cairo/ naked with yo' bitch/ I know you playin you was rich/ f!@#in prick/ when I see ya I'ma Kick in the Door wavin the .44!!

Even to the untrained eye, these lines show a consistent and fluid rhyme scheme, definitely a talent to be sorely missed in the world of music.

Life After Death is a worthy successor to "Ready to Die". Although it lacks gun slinger anthems like *Gimme the Loot!*, there's enough hard-core songs to keep the truly hard-core pleased, with the occasional R. Kelly and 112 slow jams.

The murder of the Notorious B.I.G. can honestly be viewed as a tragedy with the release of this album. Because of senseless violence there will be no remixes, videos, interviews, or concerts of any of these now classic songs. *Life After Death* is in a category of its own in not only hip-hop, but art. I would recommend it to all those with an open and unprejudiced mind and ear.

posed east vs. west rivalry, Biggie has a cameo appearance from westcoast multi-platinum artist Bone Thugs, as a song with a California style rhythm denouncing any hard feelings towards the westcoast as a whole.

Tupac Shakur's numerous public disses aimed at the Notorious B.I.G. and Bad Boy Records aren't answered in any direct, unprofessional ways. However, in keeping with the notion that "Bad Boys move in silence," if songs like *My Down*

Barhopping in Fitchburg/Leominster - the inside story

Karen Sjostrom and Jennifer Walsh
Staff Writers

Once again, it is Wednesday night, the unofficial start of the weekend here at FSC. As you sit in your dorm room, putting the finishing touches on your twenty page paper celebrating androgynous fashions and the role they played in the brief but consequential lives of the Heaven's Gate cult members, you may start to ponder how you should commemorate the end of another hectic week. You could go to a keg party, but if you are tired of shelling out \$3 to an egotistical loudmouth for a few warm beers, you might want to consider going out. Worcester has a wide variety of bars and clubs that are only a half hour away, but if you don't feel like driving the distance to the Palladium or Polyesters, don't fret. The Fitchburg/Leominster area has a few decent bars that are worth checking out.

The Wine Cellar
Located behind Fleet Bank in Fitchburg center, The Wine Cellar has to be the closest bar to campus. Open until 1 am, and with no cover charge, The Wine Cellar is the ideal place to start your evening of bar hopping. Small, cozy, and quaint, with friendly bartenders, The Wine Cellar is a Wednesday and Thursday night favorite for FSC students. There is a mellow atmosphere, reasonable pricing, and occasionally small bands play. The Wine Cellar is not a place to go if you feel like dancing. It can get cramped if a lot of people show up, and there is no Abba in the jukebox.

Boomers/Coyote Bob's
Open until 2 am, this Leominster bar is fast becoming popular among FSC students.

Wednesday and Thursday nights are college nights. If you are under 21 there is a cover charge of \$3. The complex is two clubs in one. One half is a bar with pool tables, the other is a dance club that specializes in techno music. (We begged the DJ to play Abba, but he wouldn't.) Bottled beer is a bit pricey here, but drafts are reasonable at \$1.50.

Partner's Pub
If you want to listen to a good local band, head straight to Partner's. Open until two on weekends and located on South Street in Fitchburg, not too many college students know about this bar, and that is a shame because it has definite potential. The bands that I've seen here have been surprisingly good; there are pool tables, darts, and even a device that allows you to test your intoxication level. Drafts are extremely cheap here as well. However, there is no Abba in the jukebox.

Stooges
Because this bar is relatively new, few FSC students go to it. It is located on River Street in Fitchburg, right next to Centre Pizza. Stooges is another bar that features local bands, and the cover charge usually depends on what band is playing. This bar is fairly large, with a separate pool table/game room. Stooges is open until 2am from Thursday until Sunday. And no, there is no Abba in the jukebox.

CR Goody's
Located on Lunenburg Street in Fitchburg, this is the closest dance club and is certainly the largest in the area. Warning - only go to CR's on college night, otherwise you may feel like you have been time-warped back to 1987. CR's is also two clubs in one. Upstairs is a standard bar where bands play, and down-

stairs is a dance club. Alas, they too specialize in techno/dance music, and could not be persuaded to play Abba. This bar is 18+ on college night, and is open until 2 am on the weekends.

Johnny's Bar and Grill
Formerly called Dinardo's, this Leominster center bar is probably the furthest to get to, but it is definitely worth the drive. Although I haven't seen too many FSC students there, this bar is always packed. It is spacious with pool tables, a game room, and occasional bands. The cover charge is usually \$2-3, and depends on the bands. It is open until 2 am Monday through Saturday. Abba factor: 0.

Sydney's
This place is a combination dance club/bar as well, with a large dance floor, pool tables, and plenty of tables located in dark corners. Located across from Kmart plaza in Fitchburg, this club is open until 2 am on weekends with no cover charge. It is obvious that this bar is not well known among FSC students, because most of the people there look like rejects from a 1983 Bon Jovi video. Maybe this is why Sydney's has a DJ who actually plays Abba. In fact, the majority of the music that was played was from the seventies, early eighties, and early nineties.

So continue the college tradition of barhopping by heading back and forth between these bars. You won't regret it. But if you are going to venture to one of these bars, please remember to sucker one of your friends into being a designated driver. Your night won't be that much fun if you have to argue about who is sober enough to drive home.



Grosse Pointe Blank
*** 1/2
Hollywood / Caravan Pictures

plot: Professional hit man Martin Blank returns to his home town, Grosse Pointe, for his ten-year High School reunion.

Yeah, I'm a big John Cusack fan. (And you should be, too.) This is an upbeat, happy little film... not too deep, but it's a love story, so it's okay. Minnie Driver (Debi) does a beautiful, sexy, fantastic job; her character is an independent woman, ballsy - gets a big thumbs-up from me (can I play Siskel for a minute?), and from the male members of the audience, as well. John Cusack, of course, is great - Martin Blank ranks right up there with Lloyd Dobbler and Lane Mayer.

And the music! This movie proves to the world, once and for all, that there were decent songs around in the 80's.

The storyline is the main draw, here - and the cast just makes it that much better.

Inventing the Abbotts

Twentieth Century Fox

plot: A love story about two families, one rich and one poor.

This is the sort of movie women pop in the VCR on rainy Monday afternoons, the kind you watch with your sister rather than your boyfriend (...or do hitched women not watch this kind of sap, have better things to do than watch TV on rainy days...?).

Jennifer Connelly (Eleanor) does an appreciable job... hasn't aged much since Labyrinth, except this time you get to see her naked. Half-naked, anyway. Liv Tyler is a sweetheart - plays a passionate Pam Abbott, but it's to be expected. Billy Crudup (Doug) is great - I don't think I've seen him around before... And Joaquin Phoenix (Jacey) is... a stud. Really good looking, but, like most good-looking men who know they look good,

he's a jerk. Pardon me, his character is a jerk - but he plays the role so well...

8 Heads in a Duffel Bag
* 1/2
Orion Pictures

plot: A mix-up at the airport - a misplaced bag of heads goes on vacation to Mexico with an unsuspecting college student and his girlfriend's family. The heads, which were to be delivered as proof of a hit, are sought after... replacements are considered... It only gets worse from there.

A sick circus - grossly comic. I just came out of the theatre, and I'm still in shock. This movie is going to be one of those cult movies... you know what I'm talking about. A few cool people out there are going to worship this flick.

The acting, all around, is poor - the special effects make the movie. Severed heads. They look SO REAL it's freaky. Visualize: 8 heads on a table... which suddenly break out in song, and headless bodies breaking down the walls... It sounds funny, but it's a shocker - I sat bolt upright, frozen in my chair with both feet on the floor and my mouth hanging open.

Joe Pesci stars as Tommy, the hit man - this role was made for him. Todd Luiso (Steve) gives a spectacular performance... isn't much of an actor for the first half of the movie, but watch out! He's great, once he loses his mind. Not David Spade's best movie... he's a lot more sedate, less of a cynic here than usual (and isn't that why we love him?). He's not the one who'll drive you to the theatres, trust me. It's just the horrible, sickening bizarreness of the whole thing - you're going to see this movie, one way or another. It's just too different to miss... but you might want to wait for the video - and then buy it.

Reviews by Sarah Adams,
A&E Editor

Cinema World	
Murder at 1600 (R) 12:45, 3:15, 7:15, 9:30	
Volcano (PG13) 12:45, 3:15, 7:00, 9:15	
Ramy and Rachels High School Reunion (R) 1:00, 3:30, 7:00, 9:20	
Liar Liar (PG13) 1:00, 3:15, 7:15, 9:15	
Anaconda (PG13) 1:00, 3:30, 7:15, 9:30	
The Saint (PG13) 1:00, 3:30, 7:00, 9:30	
McHale's Navy (PG) 12:45, 7:00	
8 Heads in a Duffel Bag (R) 3:15	
Scream (R) 9:30	



John Cusack and Minnie Driver star in Grosse Pointe Blank

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Saturday, May 3 - Bruce Jacques

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Michael
Poirier
Sports
Editor

Boston Celtics

Yesterday officially ended what had to have been the longest basketball season in Boston Celtics' history. After getting whipped by the Toronto Raptors 125-94 the Celtics finished at 15-67, the second worst record in the NBA and only a game behind the Vancouver Grizzlies' 14-68 mark.

What happened to this once proud organization which consisted of the Fab Five: Larry Bird, Robert Parish, Kevin McHale, Danny Ainge and the incomparable Dennis Johnson. Well Bird is now a potential candidate for coach of the Celtics, but is also being tabbed as a possible replacement for the Indiana Pacers in case Larry Brown decides to leave Hoosierville. Parish is being fitted for his fourth NBA championship ring with the Bulls, McHale is GM for the playoff bound Minnesota Timberwolves, Danny Ainge took a Phoenix Suns team that started at 0-7 and is leading them into the playoffs (albeit to be beaten by the Jazz or Sonics somewhere down the road) and Johnson witnessed this season's debacle as M.L. Carr's assistant coach.

It doesn't seem that long ago that the Celtics were constantly playoff bound and although they haven't captured a title since 1986 or appeared in the finals since 1987, this season was a sudden wakeup call to Red and the boys that this style of basketball (a losing style that is) is not going to fly with a FleetCenter crowd paying over a hundred dollars a whack to sit in luxury boxes and watch the losses pile up.

The Celtics have suffered over the last ten years and their losing ways can be attributed to a number of things. 1) Len Bias - It was over ten years ago when this next NBA superstar overdosed on cocaine and suddenly Red Auerbach's next Larry Bird was now a drug related statistic. 2) Bird's retirement - When Larry Legend announced his retirement in 1992 the Celtics were without perhaps the greatest player in their history and his leadership and long range jumpers were sorely missed come playoff time. 3) Reggie Lewis - As Bias before, Lewis' death came at the time when the Celtics were in the process of attempting to get along without the aforementioned Big Five.

Reggie was passed the Celtic championship torch and because of the incompetence of the medical DreamTeam, Lewis suffered a fatal heart attack playing a pickup game at Northeastern. The Green have yet to recover. 4) The FleetCenter - This metal monstrosity has proven to be Boston's White Elephant with its ridiculous prices for the seats, the food, the parking and the privilege of watching an inferior NBA product like the Celtics. 5) M.L. - When Carr assumed both the duties of coach and GM, was it just me or did this smack of a power trip gone awry. Over the last two seasons Carr has led the team to a 48-116 record and hasn't had many opportunities to wave the white towel except to surrender at the end of the third quarter of most of their games.

With the Celts having two picks the chances of getting collegiate superstar Tim Duncan are good, but is Duncan the next Bird? I think not and I honestly hope that the Green doesn't think that he is or else he'll become just another footnote of failure. There is some promise in Antoine Walker, David Wesley and Erik Williams, but what the Celts need is a top notch NBA center and not stop gags like Alton Lister and Fred Szabo (Fred Szabo?). Maybe M.L. should resign his duties as coach and see if someone like Brown is interested in rebuilding this team.

Boston Bruins

As the NHL playoffs are underway for the first time in 29 years the Bruins are not in the hunt for Lord Cup Stanley. Because of the massive egos of President Harry Sinden and Mike O'Connell the Bruins, led by Steve Kasper (The Friendly Coach) compiled the worst record in the NHL.

As with the Celtics the Bruins lacked any true superstars, except for Ray Bourque, and when they did have superstars (see Bill Ranford, Adam Oates, Russ Courtnall) they traded them away for mediocre, untested or over their peak players who should have been toiling in the AHL. While I am constantly reminded from the older generation of the Big Bad Bruins of the 1970's I can remember the not-so bad Bruins who played for the NHL championship in the late 1980's and early 90's only to be taken out in four straight (both times) by the Gretsky-led Edmonton Oilers.

In the 1980's and early 90's the Bruins had such personalities like Rick "Nifty" Middleton, Terry O'Reilly, Andy Moog and Cam Neely and then there were the exciting playoff series with Buffalo, Montreal (I loved beating them, didn't you) and Washington, but since then the Bru-

ins have been a shell of their former selves.

While the Bruins did not gradually collapse like the Celtics, their sudden descend to the bottom can be traced to a number of things. 1) Lack of talent - With the Bruins making the playoffs all those years there hasn't been any quality picks to speak of and whenever they do pick up a quality player they end up trading them. 2) Harry Sinden - This egotistical jerk was the last coach to lead the Bruins to a Stanley Cup (1972), but time has passed him by. Hey Harry, just because players don't agree with everything you say, you don't trade them (see Oates, Courtnall). 3) Neely's retirement - While Neely only played in half of the Bruins' game over the last three years, his goal scoring proficiency was still incredible and while I'm not going to kick his dog (see ESPNNews ad) I do miss seeing him raise his stick after scoring the game winning goal. 4) The FleetCenter - Over the last sixty-plus years the Bruins had become accustomed to playing at the Garden. Its small features enhanced many of Boston's strengths and helped take away many of their weaknesses.

The Bruins do have some prospects on the way and now that they own the first pick in the NHL Draft maybe they can address their scoring needs and possibly help out Bourque on defense. I have heard that Jack Parker (Boston University) is a possibility for the B's next coach, but remember Jack if you don't agree with Harry you'll suffer the same fate as Kasper.

Playoff Predictions

Before I forget here are my playoff predictions for both the NBA and the NHL

NBA

The Bulls will capture the Eastern Conference, but without Rodman they will get some serious challenges from the Knicks and the Heat.

The Jazz will finally take the Western Conference crown defeating a confused Sonics team. An upset will be Portland taking out the Lakers. Shaq can practice his free throws over the summer.

The Bulls will win in seven games, but all the games will be close.

NHL

The Flyers will take on the Avalanche in the NHL Finals with Philadelphia taking out Colorado in six games.

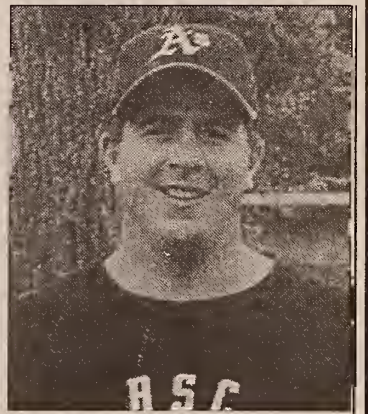
Lindros will be the focal point of the series and Flyer goalie Ron Hextall will redeem himself for past playoff failures.

Intramural Corner

By Brian Bicknell
Intramural Director

Indoor Soccer

The indoor soccer B league championship was played this past Thursday night. It was Staff Infection, led by Chris "Pele" Hunt, facing off against Phi Pi. Phi Pi (a combination of Phi Sigma and Sigma Pi) played a great game and was led by Jim Peterson. Jim, the multi talented athlete who will most likely win the Greek Intramural Athlete of the Year award had a hat trick. It was not enough however as Staff Infection executed their give and go strategy to perfection. Greg McClintock who is the best field player in the league did a great job in goal.



Street Hockey Schedule

Wednesday April 23
My Johns vs. DOA 4:00
Champs vs. Ostriges 5:00

Thursday April 24
Ostriges vs. Barely Legal 4:00
Champs vs. DOA 5:00

Monday April 28
My Johns vs. Bruins 4:00
Champs vs. Barely Legal 5:00

Tuesday April 29
DOA vs. Bruins 5:00

Basketball

The Falcon shootout is now being played with The Hunt for Red October being the frontrunner. Seante Harris is the leading candidate for the MVP trophy hitting an array of shots and conjuring up memories of Richard Harding. Randy Carter, who is still upset about losing to Staff Infection in the regular season, is playing like a man on a mission

Upcoming FSC Action

Wednesday April 23

Baseball vs. Wentworth	Home	3:30
Softball vs. Daniel Webster	Home	4:00

Thursday April 24

Softball at Anna Maria College	Away	4:00
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Saturday April 26

Baseball vs. North Adams State (2)	Away	noon
Softball vs. North Adams State (2)	Away	noon
Men's and Women's Track	Home	10:00

Tuesday April 29

Baseball vs. Endicott College	Away	6:30
Softball vs. Brandeis University	Away	4:00

Quote of the week

"Today I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the earth."

- Lou Gehrig
July 4, 1939



The Man behind the Stats

by Dean Rios
Staff Writer

Athletes on campus simply know him as Dave. Many other students on campus do not know him at all or even know what services he provides for the campus. Dave Marsh, the Sports Information Director here at FSC is an intricate player in the athletic department. He explains that, "Sports Information is a diverse field that entails a strong background in communications as well as a love for sports, I'm a sports junkie."

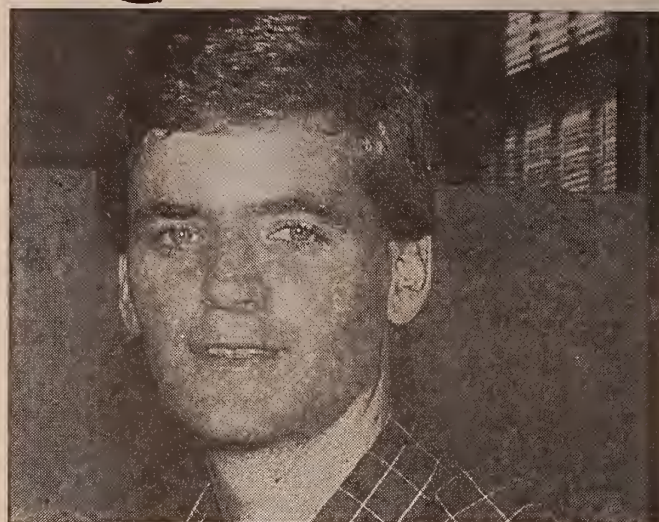
As you may already have guessed from the title, Dave handles a lot of information and statistics related to every sport at FSC he could tell you anything you wanted to know about FSC sports, past or present. "Primarily my job is to keep in touch with the local media and report

results of scores of various athletic events," he says.

However, you'll find Dave working on much more than tallying statistics and reporting results of games. Travel arrangements for away games, finding workers to help out at home games as well as promoting home games are organized by the Sports Information Director in conjunction with the athletic office staff. Work away from the desk is a common practice for Dave as well. You may see him either keeping score at a home game, running concessions or hosting special events at games. "It is disappointing that we do not get more fans for home games," admits Dave. "We try to stimulate more students to support their teams. For example during the basketball season we offered free Pizza Hut to students who hit a half-court shot."

The Booster Club and Hall of Fame are also maintained by the Sports Information Director. The athletic department receives from the Booster Club which help to support various sports programs. Members of the Booster Club receive newsletters generated by Dave which give team updates following each season. The Hall of Fame is a program which was established by the former Athletic Director as well as the Sports Information Director. This year alone at least two student athletes will be inducted into the Hall of Fame.

"FSC is a great school for athletics, the small setting and close interaction with the athletes make my job more enjoyable," says Dave. Many of the athletic programs on campus would not as smoothly if it were not for the likes of Dave Marsh.



Sports Information Director Dave Marsh

File Photo



Run Faster, Die Younger

By Katie Brace
Staff Writer

In the world of athletics, steroids are not the only illegal performance enhancing drugs on the market. Blood doping is a less common way of boosting distance runners' and cyclists' performance.

Blood doping is the "artificial means of producing high concentrations of red blood cells," writes David Mottram in his book *Drugs in Sports*. Doping is accomplished in two ways, transfusing blood, of the same type, from a donor or drawing blood from one's own body and a month or more later putting the blood back into the body. Both processes overload the circulatory system with blood.

The increased amount of blood carries more oxygen to the muscles. As a result, the muscles do not fatigue as quickly, and the athlete is able to maintain their speed in an endurance event. At the elite level it can mean the difference between winning and

losing.

Athletes who practice blood doping put themselves at medical risk. J. Bloomfield in his book *Science and Medicine in Sport* says transfusing more blood than required by the body can be hazardous. Blood clotting, heart failure and death may occur.

Transfusing blood from a donor carries additional risks, including allergic rashes and fevers, kidney failure and acute haemolysis (red cell breakdown). There is a greater chance of infection of HIV or viral hepatitis if donor blood is used.

By the 1968 Olympic Games the IOC (International Olympic Committee) had begun expressing concerns about blood doping. As Mottram points out, their fears were realized in 1984.

In 1984 the members of the U.S. Cycling Team were discovered as participants of blood doping, only two days before the Olympics. The team's actions brought the practice to the forefront and the IOC banned

doping in 1985.

Both the IAAF (International Amateur Athletic Federation) and the IOC define doping as the, "deliberate or inadvertent use by an athlete of a substance or method banned." Blood doping falls into the banned method category.

Information found on the IOC and IAAF web pages says the associations' doping rule, "protects athletes from unfair advantages which may be gained by athletes who use banned substances or methods that enhance performance and the possible harmful side effects which some substances or methods produce."

An athlete found guilty of doping in an IAAF or IOC event faces a four year suspension from competition. If the individual is convicted of a second offense their suspension is life.

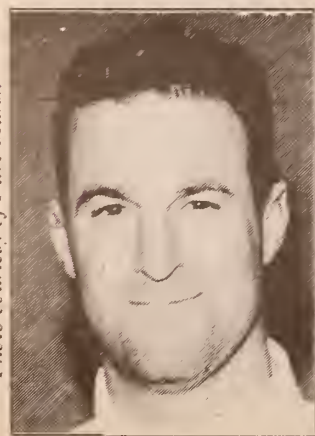
Bloomfield points out that blood doping tests began in 1993 by the IAAF and 1994 by the IOC. Testing does not occur often because of the expense.

Student Athlete of the Week

This week's student athlete of the week is **Maryann Barrett**. Barrett won four events at the FSC Invitational. Barrett placed first in the triple jump, 100 and 200 and was also a member of the winning FSC 4x100 relay team. FSC finished second with 49 points behind first-place MIT's 91. Worcester State scored 20 points to place third.



SGA Senior Athletes of the Year



Dan Genatossio



Dianne Horwath

The Strobe would like to congratulate **Dan Genatossio** and **Dianne Horwath** on being named SGA's senior athletes of the year for 1996-97. Both Genatossio and Horwath were recognized for their outstanding athletic and leadership abilities at this year's convocation, held Thursday April 17 in the Weston Auditorium.

Genatossio was recognized for his contributions to the FSC Hockey team over the last four years. Genatossio is leaving FSC as the school's second leading scorer of all time with 212 points and scored the game winning goal in overtime last year in leading FSC to the ECAC North / Central / South Championship over UMass Dartmouth. This year Genatossio, along with Joe Centrella, Jeff Duross and Aaron Abitz, led FSC back to the championship, but this time UMass Dartmouth prevailed 6-3.

Horwath was recognized for not only her contributions to the FSC women's basketball team, but to the softball team as well. Under new head coach Beth McNamara, Horwath (a co-captain), along with freshmen Brandy LeBlanc and Sarah Harding, led FSC to its best record (11-13) over the last three years. Horwath is also the co-captain of this year's softball team and has led the team to a solid record so far this year.